I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

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GROUP 1700

Docket No.: 28773/38171

(PATENT)

MAY 2 0 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Application of:

STEFFLER et al.

Application No.: 10/057,679

Group Art Unit: 1761

Filed: January 24, 2002

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For:

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS GROUP 3600

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned. In addition, these references have been known to applicants for less than three months, because they were cited in a European Patent Office Search Report dated April 25, 2003, for corresponding European Application No. 03 00 1527.5.

A copy of the references on PTO/SB/08 are attached.

While the information and references disclosed in this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an Application No.: 10/057,679 Docket No.: 28773/38171

admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 28773/38171/US. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN 6300 Sears Tower 233 South Wacker Drive Chicago, Illinois 60606 312-474-6300

By:

Robert M. Gerstein Registration No. 34,824 Attorney for Applicants

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PTO/SB/08A (10-01) Approved for use through 10/31/2002.OMB 0651-0031

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Sub	Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			Complete if Known		
SUPPLEMENTAL				Application Number	10/057,679	
				Filing Date	January 24, 2002	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE				First Named Inventor	Harold J. Steffler et al.	
S	TATEMENT	BY A	PPLICANT	Art Unit	1761	
(use as many sheets as necessary)				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	28773/38171/US	

			U.S. PATE	NT DOCUMENTS	
]	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant
Examiner Initials*		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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		FOREI	GN PATENT	DOCUMENTS		
Examiner	Cite	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant	
Initials*	No.1	Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known) MM-DD-YYYY	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T⁵
	B01	EP 0 530 868 A1	03-10-1993	Machinefabriek Meyn B.V.		
	B02	EP 1 135 990 A2	09-26-2001	Stork PMT B.V.		
	B03	WO 01/76378 A1	10-18-2001	Lindholst & Co. A/S		
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¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See attached Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the application number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS						
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	C02	European Search Report corresponding to European Patent Application Serial No. 03 00 1527.5, dated April 25, 2003 European Patent Office				

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